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**CHEROKEE NATION®**

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**Chuck Hoskin Jr.**  
*Principal Chief*  
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**Bryan Warner**  
*Deputy Principal Chief*  
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July 2, 2024

President Frank Katchatag  
Native Village of Unalakleet  
P.O. Box 270  
Unalakleet, Alaska 99684

Close

RE: USDA's Farm and Food Workers Relief Grant Program – Payments for Federally Recognized Tribal Citizens through Cherokee Nation

Dear President Katchatag,

The Farm and Food Workers Relief Program was created, through USDA funding, to offset unexpected costs brought on by the pandemic, such as purchasing protective gear, paying for testing, and costs associated with quarantine requirements for both agricultural and meatpacking workers.

Cherokee Nation has been awarded \$45,948,000 from the USDA's Farm and Food Workers Relief Program to grant 68,541 eligible, frontline agriculture and meat packing workers, a one-time flat payment of \$600 to offset costs incurred during the pandemic.

Eligibility requirements include:

- Must have been 18 at the time that work was performed.
- Must have been paid for at least one hour of agricultural work on a farm or ranch, or in a meat processing facility within the period of January 27, 2020, through May 11, 2023.
- Must be a citizen of a federally recognized tribe in the United States and provide proof of tribal citizenship (Official tribal citizenship record with name, DOB, address) or a U.S. citizen residing within the Cherokee Nation Reservation.
- Must provide proof of identification (State or federally issued ID- driver's license, passport, military ID, tribal identification card)
- Must provide proof of employment (W2, employment letter, or paystubs). A downloadable employment letter template can be found on the FFWR website, under *Additional Information*.
- Must not be an owner/operator of the farm or facility where work was performed.
- Must not apply with work related to marijuana due to its status as a Schedule I substance under the Controlled Substance Act.



To easily share this information with your tribal members, Cherokee Nation has created a toolkit that can be found at the following link [mygwy.org/FFWR](https://mygwy.org/FFWR) or via the QR code herein. This toolkit includes:

- Downloadable Social Media Templates
- Downloadable Email/Letter Header
- Printable Information Cards

As these templates contain Cherokee Nation and USDA content protected by policy, please ensure that only authorized personnel have access to this toolkit. The password for accessing the content is: **#Cherokee2024**. Please contact our office with any questions regarding usage.

Cherokee Nation encourages your eligible tribal members to apply for this funding. Interested agricultural and meatpacking workers can apply on Cherokee Nation's Farm and Food Workers Relief Program website: <https://ffwr.cherokee.org>. Additional information on the program and FAQs can be found here as well.

For questions or requests for more information, please email [FFWR@cherokee.org](mailto:FFWR@cherokee.org), or call 918-453-5058.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chuck Hoskin Jr.".

Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief  
Cherokee Nation